



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/553,283	04/20/2000	Joseph M. Cannon	99-89-46	5478
7590	03/24/2004		EXAMINER	
MANELLI DENISON & SELTER PLLC 2000 M STREET, NW SUITE 700 WASHINGTON, DC 20036-3307			NGUYEN, DAVID Q	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2681	
			DATE MAILED: 03/24/2004	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



Commissioner for Patents
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER

FILING DATE

FIRST NAMED APPLICANT

ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE

DATE MAILED:

NOTICE OF IMPROPER REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)

The request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 filed on 2-4-04 is improper for reason(s) indicated below:

- 1. Continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to an application for a design patent. Applicant may wish to consider filing a continuing application under 37 CFR 1.53(b) or a CPA under 37 CFR 1.53(d).
- 2. Continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to an application that was filed before June 8, 1995. Applicant may wish to consider filing a continuing application under 37 CFR 1.53(b) or a CPA under 37 CFR 1.53(d).
- 3. Continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to an application unless prosecution in the application is closed. If the RCE was accompanied by a reply to a non-final Office action, the reply will be entered and considered under 37 CFR 1.111. If the RCE was not accompanied by a reply, the time period set forth in the last Office action continues to run from the mailing date of that action.
- 4. The request was not filed before payment of the issue fee, and no petition under 37 CFR 1.313 was granted. If this application has not yet issued as a patent, applicant may wish to consider filing either a petition under 37 CFR 1.313 to withdraw this application from issue, or a continuing application under 37 CFR 1.53(b).
- 5. The request was not filed before abandonment of the application. The application was abandoned, or proceedings terminated on _____. Applicant may wish to consider filing a petition under 37 CFR 1.137 to revive this abandoned application.
- 6. The request was not accompanied by the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) as required by 37 CFR 1.114. Since the application is not under appeal, the time period set forth in the final Office action or notice of allowance continues to run from the mailing date of that action or notice.
- 7. The request was not accompanied by a submission as required by 37 CFR 1.114. Since the application is not under appeal, the time period set forth in the final Office action or notice of allowance continues to run from the mailing date of that action or notice.

Note: If a request for a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 CFR 1.53(d) has been filed in the utility or plant application (including a previously filed CPA) that was filed on or after May 29, 2000, **the request for a CPA has been treated as a RCE** because the CPA practice no longer applies to such application. The constructive RCE, however, is improper for reason(s) indicated above.

A copy of this notice MUST be returned with any reply.

Direct the reply and any questions about this notice to:

Linda Bedie, Examining Group 2681.

(703) 306 - 2931
FORM PTO-2051 (Rev. 3/2001)